

Eastern Illinois University

## The Keep

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The Technologist: School of Technology Alumni  
Newsletters

Technology, School of

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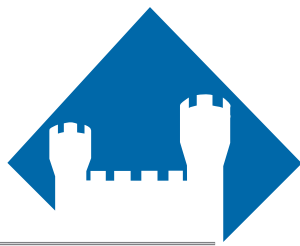
2013

## The Technologist (2013)

School of Technology

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### ***School of Technology Recognized for Recruitment Efforts***

At the April 16, 2013 Scholarship and Recognition in International Studies ceremony sponsored by International Students and Scholars and Study Abroad, the School of Technology received the “International Education Council Award for Excellence in Global Competitiveness and International Student Recruiting.” The award was accepted by Dr. Peter Ping Liu, Professor and Coordinator of the Graduate Technology Program.

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### ***CENCERE Facility under Construction***

On March 1, 2013, a groundbreaking ceremony was held for the new Center for Clean Energy Research and Education (CENCERE) building. The 5,000 square-foot facility will be located north of the Renewable Energy Center and is expected to be completed within a year. The CENCERE building will provide research space on the use of biomass fuels. The research lab will include a gasifier and gas analysis instrument to test and measure the effectiveness of the different renewable fuel sources.

Dr. Peter Ping Liu, Professor of Technology, has been the leader for the CENCERE initiatives at EIU, culminating in the new building. Dr. Liu has spent countless hours in helping to coordinate the ten academic departments involved with CENCERE, as well as implementing the new graduate degree program. The Master of Science degree in Sustainable Energy, was approved by the Illinois Board of Higher Education in December of 2012. The Council on Graduate Studies approved EIU’s first dual-degree graduate program, which will allow students to complete a Master of Science in Technology degree as well as a Master of Science in Sustainable Energy. Students pursuing both degrees will complete 12 credit hours of overlapping courses that will apply to both degrees.

Dr. Liu has worked with other individuals and departments on campus, including Robert Chesnut from the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs, to receive funding for CENCERE from several different sources, including a National Science Foundation grant in the amount of \$200,000, and a grant from the Charleston Area Charitable Foundation of over \$300,000. CENCERE has truly been a collaborative effort, with many individuals and areas across campus working to secure funding as well as to implement initiatives and curricula related to clean energy. The CENCERE facility will provide research collaboration opportunities among faculty and students on Eastern’s campus and provide educational partnerships with local middle and high school students, and with local businesses.

The new CENCERE facility will house an “idea incubator,” which is intended for use by individuals in the local community who want to develop concepts in clean energy. This space is expected to contribute to the local economy by attracting companies to the area who are interested in collaborating with EIU on clean energy research and implementation.

***[www.eiu.edu/tech](http://www.eiu.edu/tech)***

## Letter from the Chair



As I end my academic career at Eastern Illinois University, I would like to take a moment to thank all of the alumni and friends of the School of Technology for

their continued support and generosity. I had a wonderful career and will always cherish my time at EIU and the School of Technology. On July 1, 2013, Dr. Austin Cheney will be welcomed as the new chair of the School of Technology. Dr. Cheney comes to EIU from the State University of New York-Alfred State College and brings a wealth of administrative, academic, and professional experience to his new position.

The academic year 2012-2013 was very eventful for the School of Technology. In the fall semester, we welcomed two new faculty members. Dr. Wutthigrai Boonsuk joined us as a “Unit A” faculty member. His expertise in computer-related courses and research background in software development and GIS technology will complement the undergraduate and the graduate curricula. Additionally, Ms. Kelly Best became a “Unit B” faculty member, teaching in the Organizational and Professional Development program. Finally, in April, we welcomed Ms. Jaime Hendrix as our administrative aide. She has been a staff member at EIU since 2000 and she completed both her Bachelor’s and Master’s degrees in English at EIU.

This year, we were gifted with four new scholarships for our students. The Dallas and Nina Minniear Scholarship was established for students in Career

and Technical Education, and Robert F. DeBolt generously established three scholarships for the School of Technology’s CTE and AET students. These scholarships will benefit our students for years to come.

I am excited to announce a recent gift that will allow the Future Fund to become a full endowment within the next two years. During the fall 2013 semester, Robert F. DeBolt will be recognized for his continued generosity to the School of Technology, as his latest gift has made the Future Fund an enduring reality.

Our alumni and friends continue to amaze me with their willingness to support the School of Technology in so many ways. At the October 2012 School of Technology Advisory Board meeting, six new members joined the Board. We welcomed Matt Davidson, Executive Director for AGC of Illinois in Springfield; Dr. John S. Gaal, Director of Training & Workforce Development in St. Louis; Doug Hettinger from Hydro-Gear in Sullivan; Sue Miller, IVHS Mentor for Business Teachers (retired) in Sidel; Wendy Schauer Landwehr, Region H. Governor of Society of Women Engineers in Rolling Meadows; and Marcia Miller, Director of Budget & Resource Planning (retired) for the Illinois Fire Service Institute in Champaign. Jeffrey D. Decker, Product Safety and Litigation Manager for the GSI Group, Inc. in Assumption currently serves as chair of the Advisory Board.

We hosted some fun events this year! Our Career and Technical Education students once again designed and sponsored a float in EIU’s homecoming parade. The Association of Technology, Management, and Applied Engineering, ATMAE (formerly NAIT) redefined

itself as an active and vital student organization and sponsored several events to raise funds to support student attendance at ATMAE’s National Conference in Nashville. The group sponsored a “Pumpkin Carving and Smash” event that was a smashing success. The organization also designed and manufactured bistro tables as another fundraising effort, simultaneously showing off their skills while supporting the organization. The ATMAE students also worked diligently to host the department’s annual “Golf & Goat” event, which over 80 people attended, and all enjoyed a very windy day of golf! Perhaps the most notable event that took place this past year was the March 1, 2013 groundbreaking ceremony held for the new Center for Clean Energy Research and Education (CENCERE) building.

The fourth annual Student Research Symposium was held on April 3, 2013, when 10 students presented their research. This year’s symposium had a record number of people in attendance, as many gathered to listen to the results of the students’ research projects.

Over the years, the faces of our faculty and staff have changed. On page 8 you will see the most recent photograph of our faculty and staff taken this spring. It has been a privilege to work with so many wonderful people, and I expect the School of Technology to thrive for years to come.

Regards,

Interim Chair



## 4th Annual Student Research Symposium

The School of Technology held its 4th Annual Student Research Symposium in April, 2013. The symposium is an opportunity for graduate and undergraduate students to share the results of their research with their peers, faculty, and the campus community. The symposium also allows students more experience with making public presentations. As always, the symposium was well attended, as many came to be enlightened by the thought-provoking research presented by the students. The following students presented research:

- Jason Ligotino and Chris Schuckhart: Static Testing a New Knot for Industrial Access Applications
- Rob Raschke: Individual Implications of Using Wind Energy: Which Wind is Right for You?
- Todd Bruns and Stacey Knight-Davis: If It's Not Powered Up, It's Rotting: Transforming Archival Collections from Obsolete Platforms and CD-Rs to an Institutional Repository Storage Array
- Wei Wang: An Energy Conversion Efficiency Comparison of Arundo donax and Woodchips Gasification as Renewable Energy
- Jacob Hixson: Techniques for Producing Biomass Pellets with Mobile Equipment and Using Mobile Equipment to Produce Pellets: Manuals that Support Course Learning Objectives

- Oyindamola Idowu: Remote Access Real-Time Laboratory for Effective Networking Curriculum
- Gabe Przygoda: Exploring the Raspberry Pi
- Mark A. Heimburger: Application of the ADDIE Model for an Information Protection Education and Training System for the United States Air Force
- Kent Martin: Teaching Research Concepts Through Collaboration with Campus Police Investigators

## Student Excellence

At the Scholarship and Recognition in International Studies ceremony sponsored by International Students and Scholars and Study Abroad, the following Technology students received the "Mrs. Pratima Niranjah Shah Scholarship": Phani Krishna Hari (Fall 2012) and Sunny Kesireddy (Spring 2013). Also at the ceremony, Wei Wang was named to the "Class of 2013 Distinguished International Students."

At the 2013 Graduate School Awards ceremony, the following Technology students were recognized with "Distinguished Graduate Student Awards": Patrick Lyons (Sustainable Energy), Wei Wang (Technology, On-Campus), and Lori Sprague (Technology, Off-Campus). Muhammad Rizwan and Wei Wang received Williams Travel Grants.

Wei Wang and Chengdong Hu, Chinese international students at EIU, are engaged with biomass research that could change the way energy is produced both here and abroad. Wang, a graduate student in Technology, is currently working with Dr. Peter Ping Liu and Dr. Jerry Cloward to compare the energy conversion efficiency from burning different biomass. Hu, a senior Applied Engineering and Technology

undergraduate student, is working on a similar research project with Dr. Cloward which tests the heat value of materials to create efficient energy pellets.

Two undergraduate students, Jason Ligotino and David Finnegan, represented the School of Technology during EIU's Legacy Celebration. Ligotino presented his research on "Static Testing, a New Knot for Industrial Access Applications," and Finnegan presented information from his book "The Apple II," which was published in 2012.

## Graduate Student Award Winners



**Distinguished Graduate Student  
On Campus**

Wei Wang with Dr. Jerry Cloward



**Distinguished Graduate Student  
Off Campus**

Lori Sprague with Dr. Diana Wyatt



**Distinguished Graduate Student  
Sustainable Energy**

Pat Lyons with Dr. Isaac Slaven





**SOT Distinguished Alumni Award Winner** Dr. John Gosse with Dr. Deborah Woodley and School of Technology Advisory Board chair, Jeff Decker.



**Ready, aim...**Students from Dr. Slaven's Machine Design class prepare to fire a t-shirt cannon that they designed and built as a group project.



**Thanksgiving Dinner...**International students and SOT Faculty gather to share in a holiday meal at Lincoln Garden Restaurant in Charleston, Illinois.

## Alumni Recognition

At the 2013 School of Technology Spring Scholarship and Achievement ceremony, Dr. Jonathan F. Gosse received the School of Technology Distinguished Alumnus Award. Dr. Gosse is the Editor in Chief for American Publishers, Inc. in Homewood, Illinois. He received his Bachelor of Science degree from the School of Technology at EIU in 1974. Dr. Gosse then received his Master of Science in Education from Northern Illinois University, and Doctorate of Education from Washington State University. His career has included instruction of graphic communications, administration of academic programs, and publishing technical instructional material. He served in faculty and administrative positions at Eastern Washington University and Rochester Institute of Technology. In 1994, he founded American Tech Publishers and assumed the position of Editor and Chief in 1999. Dr. Gosse has written several books and has conducted research on the effectiveness of instructor-based versus computer-based training methods. In spring of 2010, he presented the "Charge to the Class" during the commencement ceremony at EIU. Dr. Gosse also served for six years as the chair of the School of Technology Advisory Committee.

## Alumni Support Scholarships in School of Technology

The Dallas and Nina Minniear Scholarship for a student majoring in Career and Technical Education was established this year and will be awarded for the first time in 2014. Dallas Minniear attended Eastern Illinois University from 1959-1962 where he was awarded a degree in Business Education and named to Pi Omega Pi, the national business honor society. We are thankful to all of the generous alumni and donors who make it possible for us to recognize the excellence of our students.

## International Thanksgiving Dinner

Sixty-five students and faculty attended a Thanksgiving dinner organized by Dr. Wafeek Wahby. The meal was held at Lincoln Garden restaurant, and the generosity of the restaurant's owners, Faik and Gici Zendeli, resulted in the meal being offered free to all in attendance. For many of the international students, this was the first opportunity to participate in the American holiday of Thanksgiving. The meal provided an opportunity for students and faculty to come together and learn more about the different cultures.



## School of Technology Fall Future Fund Ceremonies

Naming ceremonies were held on October 12, 2012, to honor Mr. Robert DeBolt and Mr. Mark R. Rogstad for their contributions to the School of Technology's Future Fund. At one ceremony, Klehm Hall 1309, which houses the Scanning Electron Microscope Laboratory, was named in DeBolt's honor. Mr. DeBolt ('62) is a Peoria native and earned a bachelor's in Technology Education from EIU. He earned a master's degree from San Diego State University in 1969. Mr. DeBolt was on the 1960 EIU football team and was a member of the EIU men's wrestling team from 1959-1960. His late wife, Mari Lynn, was also an EIU graduate. Mr. DeBolt taught technology education in the Chicago area before attending law school. Upon graduation, he practiced estate law in the Chicago area for many years before retiring to Apollo Beach, Florida where he now resides. He attributes much of his success to his experience at EIU.

Also on October 12, 2012, the second ceremony took place, to honor Mr. Mark R. Rogstad ('79 and '81) who passed away in 2008. A classroom in Klehm Hall, room 3104, was named in his honor. Mr. Rogstad graduated from Belvidere High School and earned both bachelor's and master's degrees from EIU in Technology Education. He had been an instructor at the University of Montana Western in Dillon, Montana. He was a member of the Technical Education Association of Montana. Mr. Rogstad made a bequest to the EIU Foundation for the purpose of supporting the EIU School of Technology Future Fund.



*Peter Ping Liu, EIU President Bill Perry, Robert F. DeBolt, Bob Martin and Mahyar Izadi.*



*From left to right: Thomas Hawkins, Bob Martin, Robin Blanc, EIU President Bill Perry, Matt Piescinski, Paul Pinderski, Dr. Peter Ping Liu.*

SCHOOL OF TECHNOLOGY FUTURE FUND RECOGNITION 2012	
Name	Recognition Level
Nitin Bhatnagar	SILVER
Martin J. Coleman	SILVER
J. R. and Christy B Elder	SILVER
Lillian R. Greathouse	SILVER
Samuel A. Guccione	SILVER
Robert M. Hubbard	SILVER
Hydro Gear Limited Partnership	SILVER
Deborah A. Woodley	SILVER
Jonathan F. and Jodi C. Gosse	GOLD
Colcon Corporation	PLATINUM
Robert F. DeBolt	PLATINUM
Ross A. McCullough Jr.	PLATINUM
Helen Price	PLATINUM
Mark R. Rogstad	PLATINUM
Janet Metcalf Treichel	PLATINUM



*TAGA Club members print an order of shirts during one of their Thursday night meetings.*

## **New Faculty Join the School of Technology**

In the fall of 2012, Dr. Wutthigrai Boonsuk was hired as an Assistant Professor in the Applied Engineering & Technology program. He received his Ph.D. in Industrial Engineering, his M.S. in Human Computer Interaction, and his M.S. in Industrial Engineering from Iowa State University. His professional work experience includes database development, website management, research assistance, and teaching assistance. Boonsuk brings a wealth of research experience, and he was honored as a recipient of the “Highly Commended Paper Award” by the Emerald Literati Network in 2010.



Also in the fall of 2012, Ms. Kelly Best joined the faculty as an annually-contracted instructor and began teaching Organizational & Professional Development courses. She received her MBA from EIU in 2008, and her B.S. in Business with a concentration in Business Education in 2006. Best’s previous work experience includes having worked as a software trainer and as a teaching assistant for computer concepts classes.



## **Faculty Excellence**

Dr. Julie Chadd, Associate Professor, and Dr. Lance Hogan, Associate Professor, were recipients of Achievement and Contribution Awards in the Teaching category. The award recognized both faculty members’ outstanding contributions to the University during the 2011-2012 academic year. Dr. Diana

Wyatt received the Felstehausen-Boldrey Excellence in Career and Organizational Studies award.

Dr. Karen Drage, Associate Professor, Dr. Lance Hogan, Associate Professor, and Dr. Wafeek Wahby, Professor, each received Faculty Development Grants. Additionally, a number of School of Technology faculty received Redden Grants to support their research and teaching initiatives: Dr. Rendong Bai, Mr. Bruce Barnard, Dr. Jerry Cloward, Ms. Bev Cruse, Mr. Gabriel Grant, Dr. Thomas Hawkins, Dr. Lance Hogan, Mr. Aaron Melton, Dr. David Melton, and Dr. Luke Steinke.

## **Symposium on Ancient Greece held in Fall 2012**

Dr. Wafeek Wahby, Professor of Technology, co-coordinated a series of lectures and events on ancient Greece, with Dean Allen Lanham, Library Services. “A Futuristic Look Through Ancient Lenses: A Symposium on Ancient Greece” was presented at EIU from October 3 through November 7. The series of lectures was sponsored by the School of Technology, Booth Library, and the Lumpkin College of Business and Applied Sciences. The keynote presentation was given by Ioanna Efthymiadou, Consul General of Greece in Chicago. Dr. Thomas Hawkins, Associate Professor in the School of Technology, presented “The Myth of Epimetheus and Prometheus: Time, Techne and the Invention of the Human” as part of the series, and several undergraduate and graduate students from the School of Technology presented lectures throughout the series. A number of other presentations and events were given by faculty and experts from many academic areas at EIU.



*Dr. Thomas R. Hawkins served as Commencement Marshall during the Spring 2013 Commencement.*



*Dr. Karen Drage served as Faculty Marshall during the Fall 2012 Commencement.*

**“The empires of the future are the empires of the mind.”**

**-Winston Churchill**



# School of Technology Scholarship and Award Winners



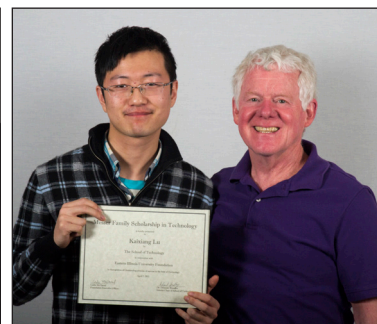
**Charles A. Elliott  
Technology Education Scholarship**  
Clinton Redman with Dr. Jerry Cloward



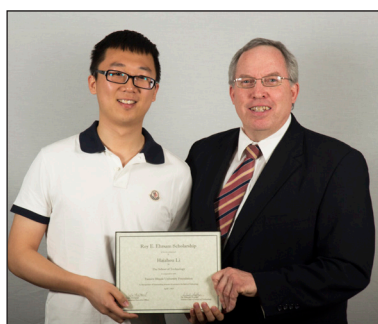
**Walter A. Klehm  
Industrial Technology Award**  
Jacob Chancellor with Dr. David Melton



**Roy E. Ehrsam Scholarship**  
Nick Gonzales with Dr. David Melton



**Messer Family  
Scholarship in Technology**  
Kaixiang Lu with Dr. John Messer



**Roy E. Ehrsam Scholarship**  
Haizhou Lu with Dr. David Melton



**Organizational and Professional  
Development Student Excellence Award**  
Raymond Garcia with Mr. Bruce Barnard



**Dr. Lillian R. Greathouse  
Scholarship**  
Mitchell Gurick with Dr. Julie Chadd



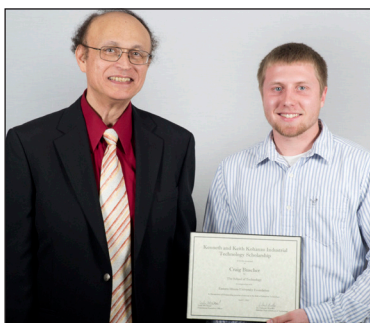
**Lois E. Elliott  
Industrial Technology Scholarship**  
Clinton Redman with Dr. Jerry Cloward



**Felstenhausen-Boldrey Excellence in  
Career and Organizational Studies Award**  
Dr. Diana Wyatt with Mr. Bruce Barnard



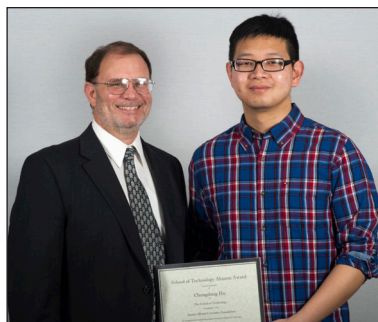
**W.C. Simmons Memorial Award**  
Cameron Stone with Dr. Julie Chadd



**Kenneth and Keith Kohanzo  
Industrial Technology Scholarship**  
Craig Buscher with Dr. Wafeek Wahby



**Walter A. Klehm  
Industrial Technology Award**  
Isaiah Bryan with Dr. David Melton



**School of Technology  
Alumni Scholarship**  
Chengdong Hu with  
Dr. Jerry Cloward



**Harold Dean Fildes  
Scholarship**  
Daniel Harrington with Jean Rinefort



**Student Ambassadors**  
Cameron Stone and Isaiah Bryan with  
Mrs. Donna Dawson



**Livingston Lord Scholar**  
Mitchell Gurick  
Career and Technical Education

Not pictured: Margaret Joyce, received the Robert N. and Barbara V. Sullivan Scholarship. Diana L. Tolley received the Student Excellence Award in Organizational and Professional Development. Mitchell Gurick also received the James D. Price Scholarship.



## ATMAE Chapter Revived

Eastern's chapter of the Association of Technology Management and Applied Engineering (ATMAE) was resurrected this past fall under the advisement of Dr. Isaac Slaven and Mr. Gabe Grant. Students coordinated a variety of fundraisers including a pumpkin smash where members of the campus community were invited to wield a large mallet and smash a pumpkin or two, in celebration of the fall season. Pumpkins were also for sale in coordination with the group's pumpkin carving contest, giving participants the option of either creating art from a pumpkin or pulverizing a pumpkin. The funds from this event were used to allow members of the organization to attend and participate in the ATMAE Conference in Nashville, Tennessee.

The group was also hard at work in the spring with projects to fund their future endeavors for the Fall of 2013. Members planned, developed, and manufactured a number of custom concrete top tables with a cedar base. Customers included members of the faculty and the greater Charleston community.

The highlight of the year was the return of the "Golf-and-Goat" event held at Meadowview Golf Course in Mattoon, Illinois. Over 80 alumni and industry members braved a windy day to enjoy a day of food, fun, and networking. Students arranged for door prizes to be donated and even fabricated plaques for winners of certain events. All proceeds went to fund the ATMAE Conference trip in New Orleans this fall. The event will be held again in April of 2014. Contact the group at [atmae@eiu.edu](mailto:atmae@eiu.edu) for further details.



Applied Engineering student Grant Cougill (2nd from left) poses with his golf team from Hydrogear located in Sullivan, Illinois.



Applied Engineering student Kevin Hanken assembles steel that will become the base for a custom built table.



**What is new with you? Have you moved? Have you taken on a new job? We would like to know! Our graduates go on to do amazing things in industry and education. Let us know where you are and what you are doing by going to [www.eiu.edu/alumni](http://www.eiu.edu/alumni)**

Mr.s Jaime Hendrix - Copywriter

Mr. Gabe Grant - Photographer & Editor



First Row, left to right: Wutthigrai Boonsuk, Thomas Hawkins, Deborah Woodley, Jaime Hendrix, Peter Ping Liu. Second Row, left to right: Jim McKirahan, Kelly Best, Sonna Lawrence, Diana Wyatt, Laurie Smith, Donna Dawson, Rendong Bai, Jerry Cloward, David Melton. Third Row, left to right: Aaron Melton, Luke Steinke, Isaac Slaven, Gabe Grant, Rigoberto Chinchilla, Lance Hogan, Wafeek Wahby, Bruce Barnard.